

TOWN OF IPSWICH  
MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Meeting of Monday, April 21, 2015  
Ipswich Town Hall, 25 Green Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2015 at 7 PM in Selectmen's Meeting Room A.

With a quorum present, Chairman. Craft called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM  
Selectmen present: William Craft, Chair; Judy Field; and Charles Surpitski and Nishan Mootafian.  
Also present: Robin Crosbie, Town Manager  
Not present: Shirley Berry  
The open meeting was recorded, with permission, by Ipswich Access Community Media.

Public Information:

Agenda --Packet  
    Consent Agenda  
    Minutes – April 6, 2015  
    Employee Status

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The water department is going to conduct hydrant flushing's in town. The downtown area will be 12-4AM on Monday April 27<sup>th</sup>. Other areas will be April 28<sup>th</sup>-May14<sup>th</sup> from 8PM-12AM.

On Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 8-11AM the Friends of the Warf will be cleaning up the town Warf of all of the winter debris.

Al Boynton is offering his resignation from the Ipswich Historical Commission. He would like to thank the town for the opportunity and the town also would also like to thank him for his contributions.

The 1634 Meadery will open on Short Street on April 25<sup>th</sup>, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on this day.

**Citizen's Queries**

None

**Recognition of Retirement of Patsy Valcour**

Mrs. Valcour is getting ready to retire. She was presented with a plaque acknowledging her outstanding work and for her committed efforts to help senior citizens in town. Mrs. Valcour has never considered this to be a job and felt it was more of a calling for her. Felt it was a privilege and an honor. She will continue to teach her exercise classes and volunteer for her outreach program.

**Hardship Commercial Clamming Permit**

The town has 21 commercial licenses left, and Chief Nikas recommends the license be approved.

*Vote: Mr. Surpitski moved to approve hardship commercial clamming license and Mr. Mootafian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **2015 Green Crab Procedure Request**

Chief Nikas appeared before the Board to discuss the upcoming years Green Crab plans for the area. Green crabs have become a real concern for our clam stock. This year they would like to increase the bounty on these crabs to .30 cents a pound. They would like, if it is approved at town meeting to have this program begin the Wednesday after town meeting. The goal is to get started early to try to catch as many as possible before they breed. Mr. Surpitski felt this was the most effective way to manage this species. He said hopefully a market can be found for them soon to help encourage more people to trap this invasive species. State legislators have been written to, in hopes that the Commonwealth program can be applied to this year's bounty, similar to last year's program. There needs to be a comprehensive program in place statewide for managing these crabs. Chief Nikas said that Ipswich's program has been adopted state wide as of this year. Other municipalities have been instructed to contact Ipswich to set up their own programs.

*Vote: Mr. Surpitski moved to approve the green crab harvesting bounty program at a cost of .30 cents per pound and Mr. Mootafian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Gift Acceptance Ipswich Recreation & Culture Department**

The town is excited that the American Society of Civil Engineers has declared the Choate Bridge a national historic landmark. There will be a celebration on May 16<sup>th</sup>, which is the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bridge. The First Ipswich bank would like to donate \$3200 to help with the celebration. There is a separate account to make sure the money is spent on this celebration.

*Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved to accept the check in the amount of \$3200 from the First Ipswich Bank to highlight the Choate Bridge celebration, Ms. Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Consent Agenda**

Lifetime Shellfish Permit(s)

*Vote: Mr Mootafian moved to approve the consent agenda and Ms. Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **DPU Report**

Donald Newell, Electric Light Manager and Karen Repucci appeared before the Board to discuss the Department of Public Utilities Report (DPU Report). This is a report that details the health and financial state of the electric light department. It is based on a required calendar year dissection of the funds. The electric light department is run on a fiscal year but this report is a calendar year. The report covers the whole department, so everything from financial, expenses, the plant, debt, KW sales, etc. is included. This is a comprehensive report and is ready for the Board to sign off on. This is a public document should anyone want to read this report. Mr. Surpitski questioned if the municipalities were the only ones that had to report or does every utility have to report? Mr. Newell confirmed that all have to report at some point in the report.

*Vote: Mr Mootafian moved to approve the DPU Report, Ms. Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **PUBLIC HEARING – Pouring Permit Request for Daniel Clapp, d/b/a 1634 Meadry**

Mr. Craft read the legal notice. Daniel Clapp appeared before the Board to discuss the pouring permit and the 1634 Meadry. Mr. Clapp lives at 2 Lakemans Lane and this weekend he is opening the 1634 Meadry. It is considered a farm winery by the state. They produce honey wine, made with local honey and fruits. They capacity to make up to 5,000 gallons of wine per year. Currently they can have tastings of what they manufacture at their facility, up to 5 one ounce samples. What is being asked for with this licenses, he can not only have the 5 one ounce samples allowed he can sell glasses of wine. He would like to do this because most of the initial sales will come from the tasting room and it is important the he has repeat customers. Several times a year he will release special recipes of mead. He would also like to have tasting parties for specific groups. Mr. Craft said this kind of license has only been around since 2013 and is relatively new and that all appropriate offices have been contacted.

*Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved to approve the Pouring Permit and Ms. Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Electric Light Department Budget**

Mr. Newell and Karen Repucci appeared before the board to discuss the electric light department budget for FY2016. Specific projects include the installation of the advanced metering structure. This project has been deescalated a bit to let the water/wastewater meter installation catch up. A PowerPoint presentation was presented and discussed at length.

Mr. Craft wanted to explain that capacity of the power plant meant, and capacity is generating capacity that is held in advance so that if requirements come along that cannot be met with the usual business this capacity can be called upon. Mr. Newell felt the capacity market right now was dramatically increasing in price. This is helping Ipswich with avoiding cost increases in other areas. Mr. Craft said the other thing not thought about, is that this is also an emergency generator for the town. Mr. Newell said our renewable energy for FY16 will be 16%, which is an increase. Almost 700,000 KW hours are being generated from solar for both residential and some small commercial units. Mr. Mootafian wondered what opened met, which is referenced in the PowerPoint Presentation. Mr. Newell explained that we use approximately 47% of our energy, our open position is what is bid in to the day ahead market. A very small percentage gets into the real time market.

Even with the microburst and the wind storm we have been very fortunate in Ipswich with Power. Mr. Mootafian wanted to know what happened in 2010, Mr. Newell was not sure because he wasn't here in 2010 and Jim Engle was not able to attend the meeting tonight. Mr. Craft explained that it was a culmination of several events that year. Some of them were rural areas that had problems with branches that have been trimmed back, and maintained. They are projecting a 1% increase in residential sales this year because of new homes being built. Mr. Craft wanted to know why Peabody was doing better than Ipswich. It was explained that they upgraded the power plant to more efficient units and bought long term contracts for energy when the rates were really low. It was confirmed that the entire budget will be posted on the website, including the PowerPoint referenced at this meeting.

Mr. Craft said in terms of estimating needs and rate structures, the department was able to do well in estimating this. The bulk of the increases in power cost will come in the form of capacity and transmission costs. Our Purchase Power Fuel Adjustment (PPFA) is the adjustable portion of our bill. It asks company to set a base rate and then have an adjustable rate. They tie this rate to the oil prices so energy prices vary month to month based on the markets. The subcommittee has voted and approved this budget as presented.

*Vote: Mr. Surpitski moved to adopt the 2016 Municipal Electric Light Department budget and Mr. Mootafian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Approval of Minutes: April 6, 2015**

**Gary Champion, Palamino Way:** appeared before the Board to recommend a change to the minutes from April 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Champion would like the motion on the Harbormaster & Mooring Regulation Study Committee to read as follows *Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved to support article 28, Mr. Mootafian seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Craft expressed "the understanding that it comes with it the responsibility on the part of the BOS to take affirmative action and explore our satisfaction by the end of August."* Mr. Craft said he wanted to clarify that the BOS cannot remove warrant articles from Town meeting. So the vote was for the Board to not support the article but not to remove it from the town meeting warrant. The Board agreed that they needed to do something and to do more investigation between now and August.

*Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved to approve the April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with modifications and Ms. Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Ipswich Journey through Time will be held Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12PM-4PM on South Main Street. This is a free outdoor event and the rain date is May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cummings Architecture and Windhill Realty are some of the sponsors for this event.

Ms. Crosbie said the Ipswich River Watershed Association is moving forward with the efforts of the Mills dam removal feasibility study grant use. This is being looked at for restoration of fish ways and natural river ways. New members have been added to this committee, these members are: Ethan Parsons, John Fiske, Tom Wheeler, Kevin Currea and Bill Bennett from the Ipswich Fish and Wildlife Service. The study of the removing the dam is ongoing. Coastal Resiliency program grant application came through. The Ipswich River Watershed Association received the Hurricane Sandy Competitive Grants Program and it approved a 2.9 million dollar project. This is called community risk reduction through comprehensive resiliency enhancement of the great marsh. There are two groups, one is the Salisbury, Newburyport, Newbury group and the Ipswich, Essex and Rowley group. On this committee on behalf of Ipswich is Lt. Jon Hubbard, Beth O'Connor, Rick Clarke, Alicia Geilen and Heidi Paek.

There is late request for a special day alcohol license, for the Masonic Temple for May 2<sup>nd</sup>. This has been signed off on by everyone necessary.

*Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved to accept the one day special all alcohol license, Ms. Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Adjournment**

*Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved to adjourn at 8:31, Ms. Field seconded and it was unanimous to do so.*

Respectfully submitted by  
Jennifer Dionne  
4.27.15